

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/900,716

Examiner

Aravind K. Moorthy

Applicant(s)

MILGRAM, MAURICE

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 7/11/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 41, 44-50 and 52-57.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

CHRISTOPHER REVAK
PRIMARY EXAMINER

CR 9/28/06

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is in response to the communications filed on 11 July 2006.
2. Claims 41, 44-50 and 52-57 are pending in the application.
3. Claims 41, 44-50 and 52-57 have been allowed.
4. Claims 1-40, 42, 43 and 51 have been cancelled.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

5. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Donald Boys on 22 September 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 41 (Currently amended) A security system integrated with an optical disk, comprising:

- a microprocessor;
- a light sensor coupled to the microprocessor;
- a sound emitter coupled to the microprocessor;
- a power source providing power for operation; and
- executable code in digital memory accessible to the microprocessor;

the microprocessor, the light sensor, the sound emitter, the digital memory with executable code, and the power source comprising an electronic security device embedded in a region of the optical disk where data is not stored; and

a computer having a drive enabled to read the optical disk, a keyboard and a display;

wherein the light sensor receives a code modulated in light, the microprocessor, running the executable code, uses the received code to retrieve an associated code from the digital memory, and transmits the associated code by the sound emitter modulated in sound waves understandable by a human operator, who inputs the code to the computer through the keyboard.

Claim 42. (cancelled)

Claim 43. (cancelled)

Claim 44 (Currently amended) The security system of claim 41 wherein the associated code is provided to the computer through a microphone coupled to the computer, the microphone a part of the input apparatus.

Claim 45 (Currently amended) The security system of claim 41 wherein the associated code transmitted to the computer is used by the computer to authorize or not authorize one or more actions associated with the optical disk.

Claim 47 (Currently amended) The security system of claim 41 wherein the computer provides specific instructions for positioning the optical disk relative to the display screen for transmission and reception of the code from the computer to the light sensor.

Claim 49 (Currently amended) The security system of claim 41 further comprising a remote security device which receives the sound signal, associates the sound signal with a security code, and provides the security code to the computer.

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Claim 50 (Currently amended) A method for providing security for an optical disk, comprising:

(a) embedding an electronic security device comprising a microprocessor, a light sensor coupled to the microprocessor, a sound emitter coupled to the microprocessor, a power source providing power for operation, and executable code in digital memory accessible to the microprocessor in a region of the optical disk where data is not stored;

(b) providing a code modulated in light from a display screen of a computer having a keyboard;

(c) receiving the code by the light sensor of the embedded security device;

(d) associating the retrieved code by the microprocessor with a stored associated code; and

(e) emitting the associated code by the sound emitter as audio understandable by a human operator, who inputs the code to the computer through the keyboard.

Claim 51. (cancelled)

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 41, 44-50 and 52-57 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The current application is directed towards a security system that is embedded in an optical disk, specifically in a region not used for storing data, and the system includes apparatus enabled for reading a code modulated in light, and an action of associating the received code

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with a stored code, and transmitting the stored code in sound. The sound waves are understandable by a human operator, who inputs the code to the computer through the keyboard.

The closest prior art to the current application is a non-patent literature titled "Personal Computing for the Visually Impaired" (hereinafter McMillin). McMillin teaches computer output and feedback. The output and feedback functions have roughly the same requirements with respect to interactive usage. Feedback can be either voice or tactile. For purely visually impaired users, there is no requirement for voice input of text. A first approximation to voice output would be to echo each character as it is typed or displayed. Tactile feedback is in the form of Braille cells that can be produced on special devices that formulate the Braille character via raised pins on a tactile grid. This method roughly mimics the way one uses a Braillewriter. It may be used both with Braille input and with keyboard input. However, McMillin does not disclose the following limitations of independent claims 41 and 50: a microprocessor, a light sensor coupled to the microprocessor, a sound emitter coupled to the microprocessor, a power source providing power for operation, and executable code in digital memory accessible to the microprocessor. McMillin does not disclose that the microprocessor, the light sensor, the sound emitter, the digital memory with executable code, and the power source comprise an electronic security device embedded in a region of the optical disk where data is not stored.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aravind K. Moorthy whose telephone number is 571-272-3793. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz R. Sheikh can be reached on 571-272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Aravind K Moorthy
September 27, 2006

CHRISTOPHER REVAK
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Cell 9/28/06